4. विदेशों में रहने वाले रिश्तेदारों से प्राप्त विदेशी मुद्रा के ड्राफ्टों के आधार पर जाने वाले हज यात्रियों का कोटा 1500 से बढ़ाकर 1600 किया गया ।

5. मक्का स्थित भारतीय स्थायी आवासालय को ज्यादा बड़े भवन में स्थानांतरित किया गया ताकि भारतीय हज यात्रियों को बेहतर चिकित्सा सुविधायें प्रदान की जा सकें ।

New Consumer Price Index

@3469. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a new consumer price index with 1982 as the base year; and

(b) if so, details of the same and when the new index will come into being?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The new series of consumer price index numbers will be more bread-based covering 7 sectors of employment, namely, factories, mines, plantations, motor transport, electricity generation and distribution, Ports and Docks, and Railways, as against 3 sectors in the existing series with 1960 as the base year. The new series will use indices of 70 Centres all over the country as against 50 centres in the current series. In the case of rationed commodities, the new price index will take into account actual availability of supply at Fair Price Shops, rather than the admissible quantum. The number of markets covered has been increased from 142 to 226. The new series covers more items in the consumption basket as compared to the existing series.

The new series will be introduced as soon as consultation with the users is over.

Firing by Pakistan Rangers

@@3470. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistani Rangers had fired heavily on Indian forces at a border security force barricade in Wagha Sector in the first week of July, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details of the incident and casualties, if any;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government have information that the Pak. Rangers were hand-in-glace glove with the top smugglers of the Indian and Pakistani States of Punjab; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) It is a fact that a BSF Naka party Ex-BOP Dhariwal, Amritsar Sector was fired upon by intruders wearing uniform of Pak. Rangers. The incident took place on the 6th July, 1987 at about 0315 hrs., when the BSF troops were advancing to search the area, after an encounter with 5 intruders from Pakistan which resulted in the death of 2 intruders while the remaining 3 managed to escape. A strong protest was lodged by the BSF with the Wing Commander of Pak. Rangers regarding the above incident of firing by Pak. Rangers on BSF troops. Pak. Rangers had lodged a counter-protest denying their involvement in the incident and had blamed the BSF for firing on their troops. This was denied by BSF.

@Previously Unstarred Question 3020 transferred from the 20th August, 1987.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 3094 transferred from the 20th August, 1987.

(c) Government have no such information.

(d) Does not arise.

Corrupt Practices in Cotton Corporation of India

3471. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG. Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the widespread corruption amongst the officers of the Cotton Corporation of India; if so, what are the names of the officers against whom action has been taken and what were the charge against them; and

(b) whether any demand was raised in Parliament for taking action aaginst some officials of the Cotton Corporation of India in respect of the purchase of cotton in Gujarat; and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Government are not aware of any corruption amongst the officers of the Cotton Corporation of India. However, on the basis of complaints against some of the officers in the past, action was taken against them. The details are given in the statement attachd. (*See* below). On the basis of complaints alleging lower value realisation in certain exports transactions of the Cotton Corporation of India during the current cotton year, the Government ordered an enquiry by the Central Bureau of Investigation..

(b) In the recent past the question of irregularities in the purchase of cotton by the Cotton Corporation of India in Gujarat was raised in the Rajya Sabha in November 1986 by way of Special Mention by the Hon'ble Member. The enquiries made into these allegations did not establish the same.

Statement

(1) Shri P.C. Sachdeva, Branch Manager, Gr. II was kept under suspension due to regularisation of purchases at higher rate then allowed at Ballary in March, 1986 and for his failure to engage Godowns and remove the full-pressed bales from Ginning and Preasing factories of such Godowns resulting in two fires in April 1986, and also for allowing purchase of sub-standard kapas. An enquiry has been ordered.

(2) Shri C.K. Gajbhiya, Branch Manager, Sriganganagar showed undue favours to parties in the Sale of Cotton during 1978-79. He has been censured and has subsequently resigned from the Corporation.

(3) Shri B. S. More, Branch Manager, Guntur has been reverted to the post of Deputy Manager on the charge of allowing purchases of inferior kapas in Andhra Pradesh during 1984-85.

(4) Shri C.S. Dhiman, Branch Manager, Grade II, Guntur has been reverted to the rank of Assistant Manager for having allowed purchases of kapas in Andhra Pradesh in declining market against the instructions of Head Office.

(5) Shri P.A. Chade, Assistant Manager has been reverted to the lower post, of Senior CPO on the charge of manipulating kapas purchase bills and recommending payment resulting in excess payment.

Recruitment in the BSF, CRPF, etc.

3472. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what is the number of persons recruited in the B.S.F., C.R.P.F., C.I.S.F., and other paramilitary forces during the last three years and the State-wise and year-wise details thereof?